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“26th May, 1845.

“SIR,—It may be well to have a notice inserted in the minutes of the meeting of this evening, of the discovery of three gold antiquities of considerable value, which were found recently in the neighbourhood of Naas.

“The most interesting of these articles is a gold torquis, which I have purchased for the Marquis of Kildare’s collection. It differs in form from the two in the Academy collection, which were found at Tara; and it is smaller than the largest of these, and larger than the smaller; its ends are also larger than those of the larger torquis. In form, the ends resemble those of the small torquis which the Academy purchased from the late Major Sirr. This torquis weighs 18 oz. 4 dwts. and 6 grs. The principle of its construction is quite manifest, for the four gold bands of which it is made are not perfectly connected together in several places: thus it exhibits a difference in its construction from the gold articles from Africa, which resemble those twisted gold ornaments found in Ireland.

“The other two articles were gold rings, or bent round bars of gold, one large enough to go round the *neck* of a man, and the other to go round his *wrist*. The larger weighs 31 oz. 14 dwts. and 16 grs.; and the smaller one weighs 7 oz. 5 dwts. and 19 grs., being a quarter of the weight of the larger. As the weights were ascertained with great care, they may be depended on.

“The weight of the torquis has not been yet verified. It is, for the present, deposited for inspection in the case with the gold ornaments belonging to the Academy.

“Your obedient Servant,

“EDWARD CLIBBORN,

“*Assist. Librarian, R. I. A.*”

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The Rev. Dr. Todd read a paper on the ancient Wax Tablets which he had presented to the Academy on the 14th of April last, on behalf of the Rev. J. Spencer Knox.

From the words still legible on the tablets it is evident that they had belonged to some schoolmaster, who had employed them in the instruction of his pupils, or to some

scholar, who had inscribed upon them his exercises in grammar and dialectics: and from the words "*hoc trivium*," which occur on one of the pages, it would seem that the owner was engaged in learning or teaching the *trivium*, i. e. the first three of the seven liberal arts, in which the first Degree is still taken in our Universities.

The characters inscribed on these tables, as far as Dr. Todd was able to determine, were of the fifteenth century, if not earlier. He shewed that the use of waxed tablets continued to the seventeenth century, and that there was no foundation for the opinion maintained by a learned French Dominican, Père Alexandre, that the use of tablets of this kind ceased in the fifth century.

Dr. Todd concluded by proposing that the special thanks of the Academy be presented to Mr. Knox for this valuable donation to the Museum; and recommended that it be referred to the Council to have drawings of the tablets immediately made, lest they should receive injury from the ordinary heat of the room, or otherwise.

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Professor Allman made some observations on the wood composing the tablets, which he submitted to microscopical examination.

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The Rev. Humphrey Lloyd read the following paper by the Rev. Thomas Knox, on the quantity of Rain which fell with different winds, at Toomavara, during five years since 1827.

I beg leave to lay before the Royal Irish Academy the following results of the rain-gauge kept at River Glebe, Toomavara, for five consecutive years.

The amount of rain is given separately for the eight principal points of the wind; and the curves in the accompanying plates are formed (as mentioned in a former communication) by taking on each of the eight points, distances from the